

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 05248 161639Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /083 W  
-----054581 161906Z /44

R 161537Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4443  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PORG, SF, US, SY, NI  
SUBJECT: LAGOS ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 192539, 179444

1. POLOFF, IN ABSENCE OF DCM, SAW DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION, MFA, JAZZAR AUGUST 16 TO REQUEST NAMES OF SYRIAN DELEGATES TO SUBJECT CONFERENCE AND MADE POINTS PARAS 2 AND 3 STATE 192539. POLOFF STRESSED HOPE THAT CONFERENCE DECLARATION COULD BE IN MODERATE AND MEASURED TERMS. JAZZAR SAID IT WAS EXTREMELY GOOD SIGN THAT US WOULD BE REPRESENTED AND AT SUCH A HIGH LEVEL. HE SAID HE HOPED NEW US CONCERN WOULD BE PRELUDE TO FURTHER TANGIBLE US STEPS TO COMBAT APARTHEID.

2. POLOFF POINTED OUT THAT US ATTITUDE AT CONFERENCE WOULD BE SRIOUSLY AFFECTED IF CONFERENCE BECAME ENMESHED IN APARTHEID-ZIONISM LINKAGE RATHER THAN DEALING WITH REALISTIC  
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STEPS TO COMBAT APARTHEID. JAZZAR SAID THAT SYRIA HAS WELL KNOWN POSITION ON RACISM AND THAT ZIONISM AND APARTHEID WERE BY THEIR VERY NATURE LINKED. SYRIA CANNOT CONSIDER THE ONE IN ABSENCE OF THE OTHER WHILE EVERY DAY NEW AGRESSIVE ACTS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT BY ISRAELIS. JAZZAR CITED, AS EVIDENCE, NEW MOVE EXTENDING ISRAELI SOCIAL WELFARE LAWS TO WEST BANK WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS

"CREEPING ANNEXATION." THUS, SYRIA CANNOT CHANGE ITS LONG  
STANDING POLICY FOR LAGOS CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, JAZZAR SAID,  
SYRIA UNDERSTANDS US POSITION AND WANTS TO COOPERATE. HE  
ONCE AGAIN REITERATED HIS GREAT PLEASURE THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG  
WOULD BE LEADING US DELGATION.

3. JAZZAR SAID THAT ONLY SYRIAN DELEGATE TO CONFERENCE  
TO BE CHOSEN THUS FAR WAS MR. SIYYAJ (PHONETIC) OF  
PERMANENT SYRIAN UN DELEGATION. REMAINING DELEGATES WOULD  
DEPEND ON WISHES OF FONMIN KHADDAM AS CONFERENCE  
APPROACHES. JAZZAR SAID HE WOULD LET US KNOW WHEN DELEGATES  
CHOSEN, BUT WARNED THAT THIS WAS USUALLY LAST MINUTE DECISION.

4. COMMENT: EXPECT SYRIAN DELEGATION TO MAKE MANDATORY,  
IN SYRIAN, EYES, ATTEMPT TO CONDEMN ZIONISM AT LAGOS CONFERENCE.  
HOW FAR SYRIANS WILL PRESS THIS CAMPAIGN WILL DEPEND  
ON STRENGTH OF SAUDI AND EGYPTIAN LEAD AGAINST APARTHEID-  
ZIONISM LINKAGE.  
MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009